delivery time from the pull-down menu and then select either morning or afternoon."

Example: Delivery time: year [2000] month [2] day [14]

5 ● Morning ○ Afternoon

The list 101 contains model numbers of toner cartridges, model numbers of corresponding machines, price information, which are displayed together with input fields for entering

10 an order quantity for each toner cartridge model number. Although FIG. 6 shows only two toner cartridge models, actually the main server 81 takes measures to list all toner cartridge model numbers compatible with each of the machines including printers, copiers, facsimile machines,

15 etc. used by the user.

The possible cases in which a display such as the one shown in FIG. 6 is provided include, for example, when (1) the user has not yet registered for the collection service, (2) the user has registered for the collection service, but

20 wants to cancel the registration, or (3) the user wants to decide whether to use the collection service, separately for each order or each product.

FIG. 16 shows one possible flowchart which represents detailed process of displaying the information of the list

25 101 on a display unit of the terminal 41. The processes of the steps in the flowchart of FIG. 16 are carried out as the CPU 1501 executes processes based on the program code

stored in the main storage or auxiliary storage of the main server 81. These processes are performed through collaboration between the DB 8 storing various data and the main server 81.

5   In S1601, the main server 81 receives user specific information from the terminal 40. This user specific information corresponds to the user ID and password described in relation to S1 in FIG. 4. Also, user specific information must allow a given user to be identified.

10   In S1602, output equipment information managed in relation to the user specific information received in S1601 is searched for and search result information is retrieved.

     In S1603, based on the retrieved output device information, information about consumables related to the

15   output devices is searched and search result information is retrieved. The information about related consumables here refers to information about toner cartridges, ink cartridges, photoconductor drums etc. which are available for the given output devices. Also, even if consumables

20   for a device have been changed for some reason, the user does not need to be aware of the model numbers of the consumables for the device he/she possesses, provided the changed model numbers are stored in the database, being associated with the output device information.

25   In S1604, price information which corresponds to the retrieved output device information is searched for. In S1605, it is judged whether consumables information and

price information have been searched in relation to all the
equipment registered and managed for each user ID. If the
answer is "No," the processes of S1603 and S1604 are
repeated.

5   On the other hand, if it is judged in S1605 that
information about related consumables and price
information corresponding to all the output equipment have
been retrieved and obtained, display data is generated and
sent in S1606, based on the retrieved output device

10   information, information about related consumables
corresponding to the output device information, and price
information corresponding to the information about related
consumables. The information generated by the main server
81 in S1606 is intended to be sent to the terminal 41 and

15   displayed there.

The collection service registration section 104 is
intended for the user to indicate whether to use the
collection service of used toner cartridges. If the user
wants to use the collection service and indicates it, used

20   toner cartridges are collected at the time of the
above-mentioned delivery of toner cartridges. Details
will be described later.

Furthermore, if the user expresses his/her intention
to use the collection service as described above, a pair

25   of shipping and collection tickets (shipping/collection
ticket) are issued by the main server 81. The issued ticket
is attached to a packing box of the toner cartridges